

Credit for Prior Learning: Recommendations for Industry-Recognized Credentials

This document provides recommendations for students and institutions regarding the awarding of credit for prior learning for industry-recognized certifications and licensure that fall outside of the guidelines for Career-Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs) and Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guides (ITAGs). It was developed by staff at the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) and relevant faculty at Ohio public colleges and universities and serves as a guide only for awarding credit for prior learning.

The credentials included in this list have been reviewed by a panel of faculty experts from the relevant disciplines and have been determined to demonstrate the mastery of skills and content equivalent to those taught in college-level courses. The relevant faculty panel has endorsed the awarding of college credit to students who hold any of the credentials listed below; however, development for a statewide transfer agreement is not feasible for one or more of the following reasons:

- A natural degree pathway does not exist to which credit for this credential could easily apply.
- Institutions would likely not be able to award course-specific credit for this credential.
- Few institutions in Ohio offer programs in this discipline.

In lieu of a statewide transfer guarantee, ODHE encourages institutions to award and apply credit for students holding any of these credentials, provided the student's credential is still current, according to the recommendations listed below. The number of recommended hours to be awarded was determined by the panel of faculty experts as the minimum number of credits appropriate for the scope of the credential(s) under consideration; however, institutions are at their discretion to award a different number of hours.

Discipline	Credential	Guidance
Medical Assisting	Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA), National Healthcareer Association Certified Medical Assistant (CMA), American Association of Medical Assistants Clinical Medical Assistant Certification (CMAC), American Medical Certification Association National Certified Medical Assistant (NCMA), National Center for Competency Testing	Recommended Hours: 25 (for any one of the five listed credentials) Application of Credit: Institutions are encouraged to award credit toward relevant programs with a technical hour requirement, such as an A.A.S. in Health Sciences. If the student is not pursuing such a degree, the credit may be awarded as technical elective credit. Verification: CCMA: Institutions can verify certification directly through the National Healthcareer Association website.

	Registered Medical Assistant (RMA), American Medical Technologists	<p>CMA: Institutions can verify certification directly through the American Association of Medical Assistants website.</p> <p>CMAC: Institutions can verify certification directly through the American Medical Certification Association website.</p> <p>NCMA: Institutions can verify certification directly through the National Center for Competency Testing website.</p> <p>RMA: Institutions can verify certification directly through the American Medical Technologists website.</p>
Pharmacy Technician	<p>Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT), Pharmacy Technician Certification Board</p> <p>Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT), National Healthcareer Association</p>	<p>Recommended Hours: 10 (for either of the two listed credentials)</p> <p>Application of Credit: In accordance with the policies of the discipline, institutions should award credit only for current pharmacy technician certification from an organization that has been recognized by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy. The Board of Pharmacy's website offers a list of recognized organizations and outlines the requirements for individuals to register with the board.</p> <p>Institutions are encouraged to award credit toward relevant programs with a technical hour requirement, such as an A.A.S. in Health Sciences. If the student is not pursuing such a degree, the credit may be awarded as technical elective credit.</p> <p>Verification: Pharmacy Technician Certification Board: Institutions can verify certification directly through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board website.</p> <p>National Healthcareer Association: Institutions can verify certification directly through the National Healthcareer Association website.</p>

Phlebotomy	Phlebotomy Technician (PBT), American Society for Clinical Pathology	<p>Recommended Hours: 3</p> <p>Application of Credit: Institutions with one or more Phlebotomy courses are encouraged to award course-specific credit for the most appropriate course or courses. This credit may be applied to relevant programs with a technical hour requirement, such as an A.A.S. in Health Sciences. If the student is not pursuing such a degree, the credit may be applied as elective credit.</p> <p>Institutions that do not offer Phlebotomy courses are encouraged to award non-course-specific credit toward relevant programs with a technical hour requirement, such as an A.A.S. in Health Sciences. If the student is not pursuing such a degree, the credit may be awarded as technical elective credit.</p> <p>Verification: PBT: Institutions can verify certification directly through the American Society for Clinical Pathology website.</p>
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